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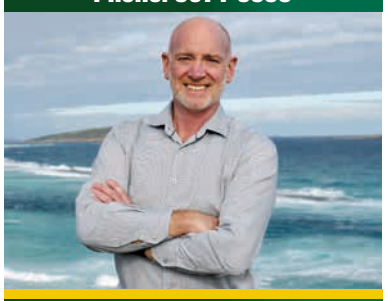
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Member of the Legislative Council

Esperance weekender

ESPERANCE COMMUNITY'S LOCAL, INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Vol 03, No 34 Friday, 25 August 2023 Price $2.20

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NAIDOC celebration

Photo: Prathamesh Deshpande

Nulsen Primary School kids making bracelets for NAIDOC. More on page 4.

Great catch Isla!

Photo: Megan Karger

Isla Waideman won the Salmon and Skippy in the Esperance Land Based Fishing Club venue, under 10s division. More on page 6.

Inside stories

P3 Magazine closing

P3 Tree policy

P5 Park man quits

RICK WILSON
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR O'CONNOR
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$4 million for the new Esperance Jetty
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Authorised by Rick Wilson MP, Liberal Party of Australia, Units 11 & 12, 75-79 Dempster Street, Esperance WA 6450.

NEWS

YOUR THOUGHTS What would you like to see changed in Esperance?

Judy Neave

"Wouldn't change anything. It's beautiful, clean, and the people are friendly." – New South Wales

Rick Neave

"For the short time I've been here, I can't fault anything." – New South Wales

Helen McGovern

"Keep it as it is: no high-rises." – New South Wales

Ken Jenkyn

"I think what the community needs is for diverse individuals to unite their great ideas: joining little sections of the community into a more unified community." – Esperance

INSIDE THIS WEEK

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Esperance weekender

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MANAGING DIRECTOR: Roslyn Buktenica

EDITOR: Geoff Vivian
editor@esperanceweekender.com.au

JOURNALIST: Prathamesh Deshpande
journalist@esperanceweekender.com.au

CREATIVE DESIGNER: Jami Welshman

DISPLAY ADVERTISING: Benn Buktenica
sales@esperanceweekender.com.au

ADMINISTRATION: Greg Symes
accounts@esperanceweekender.com.au

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING: Greg Symes
classifieds@esperanceweekender.com.au

Unit 4, 81 Dempster Street, Esperance WA 6450
PHONE: 9071 5259
CLASSIFIEDS: 9071 4786

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The Esperance Weekender acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of this land, the Nyungar and Ngadju people, and pays respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Jonte Meyer's early morning snap of Castletown Quays is Photo of the Week.

Email your high resolution photos of local scenes to editor@esperanceweekender.com.au for publication.

Photo of the Month Competition

Send your photos to editor@esperanceweekender.com.au to be in the running to win the "Photo of the Month".

If your photo gets printed in the paper we at the Esperance Weekender will choose the best one for the month and you will WIN a $100 voucher from Retravision Esperance to spend in their Homewares section – this includes dinner sets, wine glasses, pots and pans, cheese boards, candles etc (no electrical items).

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Esperance weekender

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Tide goes out

GEOFF VIVIAN

AFTER almost seven years of publication, Esperance's arts and culture magazine will be hitting the streets for the last time next Friday.

We spoke to owner and editor Bronte Vincent as she was putting the Esperance Tide's 101st edition together.

She said she decided to start the publication when she returned to her home town in 2016.

"I had been living in Perth for a while and I had worked for a newspaper company for six years," Ms Vincent said.

"I did an apprenticeship in pre-press graphic arts which is graphic design in the print industry.

"I thought it would be cool to do a publication in Esperance which had more of an arts and culture, 'what's on' kind of focus than a traditional newspaper."

She said she detected a hole in the market that she could fill.

"We didn't really know what was going on and it was really hard to get information," Ms Vincent said.

"When there were new businesses popping up there was no real place for them to advertise and get the word out.

"It was supposed to be a summer thing for the tourism season but it really grew from there."

And grow it did, beginning from the time she printed the first editions herself with her own multi-purpose office printer with a stapling attachment.

"There were times the printer would stop working and that was always the biggest nightmare," Ms Vincent said.

"And there were times I would be printing til four or five in the morning — I would have a quick power nap then go and deliver at 7 in the morning."

Those deliveries are among her happiest memories.

"It is always so nice to get really great feedback when I do my own deliveries," Ms Vincent said.

"After a tough week and getting it out in print by deadline it's always great to get the reactions of the readers every month."

She said while the Esperance Tide has provided a living, she had not tried to sell the publication.

"The Esperance Tide brand, I want to keep that alive because I have my shop Tide and Co and we want to keep selling Esperance Tide merchandise," Ms Vincent said.

"I don't have a plan for the foreseeable future but I would like to do something in the realm of Esperance Tide in the future, whether that be a magazine or something else.

"I am just going to be focussing on my shop Tide and Co — this time of year going into summer it is a lot of work."

Esperance Tide edition 101 is due out on September 1.

Photo: Bronte Vincent

Esperance Tide founder and editor Bronte Vincent.

'For the trees'

GEOFF VIVIAN

Esperance Shire has revised its tree policy to include more local native species on its approved street tree register.

Council approved a new Street Tree policy when it met this week.

It considered 10 written submissions from Esperance residents, nine of which called for trees native to WA or even just to Esperance, to give more feeding options to wildlife such as endangered Carnaby's Black Cockatoos.

One of the letters asked for eucalypts to be taken out, as the wind blew nuts and flowers over their garden.

In moving the motion, Cr Jennifer Obourne commended the whole consultation process.

"It was inclusive of more species crucial to the habitat of our Carnaby's Black Cockatoos and it was great to see the suburbs using nature as entry statements," she said.

"The locals had a lot to say about their own suburbs, providing valuable insights."

Cr Leonie de Haas, who seconded the motion, said the appropriate trees were an important wildlife habitat and provided better quality air and shade.

"With this policy we can help to better protect them," she said.

Shire president Ian Mickel said the Shire's public consultation showed Esperance people were passionate about trees.

"The Shire is committed to maintaining trees on the verges and we have to meet a whole range of conditions to keep public infrastructure under the ground and on the ground," he said.

"Sewerage and water and telephone cables are underground, and above the ground we have electricity, and we have to be able to manage them for safety reasons.

"That is why a policy is important as people have different expectations of what managing a tree might be."

Mr Mickel said because the Shire managed trees on verges they had taken some recommendations from adjoining property owners.

"The bottom line is there are some trees we think don't fit as street trees, even if some people think they look lovely in their gardens," he said.

However the policy does not allow existing trees to be removed or pruned simply because people don't like them.

Mr Mickel gave the example of olive trees which may have been planted some years ago by a developer.

Esperance Shire president Ian Mickel.

"We accept it may be messy for people walking on the footpath but is that a reason to take them out?" he said.

"Some people love to harvest olives, but some people don't like it.

"We are all different and there are different cases with historic trees and new plantings and we try to have a policy to manage all of that."

All councillors voted to accept the new policy.

Capped airfares decline

PRATHAMESH DESHPANDE

AFTER the first 12 months of capped airfares on the Esperance-Perth route, the number of passengers taking up the offer declined in the second half of that period.

Despite the dwindling numbers on this route, WA Transport minister Rita Saffioti said the Regional Airfare Zone Cap scheme marked a "successful" first year with 151,181 airfares utilised in the state under the initiative.

Ms Saffioti said the RAZC scheme launched in July 2022 was an initiative that collaborated with six participating airlines to provide regional residents with access to capped airfares to Perth.

The cap was set at either at $199 or $299 one-way when booked as a return fare for personal travel.

Ms Saffioti said the RAZC scheme not only saved travellers around $100 per capped airfare but also contributed to the growth and enhancement of regional aviation, further enhancing accessibility for those living in remote areas.

She said this effort aimed to ease the financial burden on regional residents, making air travel more accessible and affordable, particularly for essential appointments and family reunions.

Esperance Tourism Development manager Eugene De Villiers said the locals were opting to drive 7.5 hours each way rather than risk delayed or cancelled Perth flights operated by Rex Airlines.

He said 34 of 72 Esperance flights had recently been delayed past the industry standard, the majority by several hours.

We asked the Minister why the Esperance-Perth route was regulated despite the single carrier's target shortfall.

Ms Saffioti said to support airline competition, the State Government regulated WA air routes with insufficient passenger demand by granting monopoly rights to a single airline operating on "a particular Regular Public Transport route".

During the scheme's inaugural year, she said a total of 12,858 capped airfares were flown on the Esperance-Perth route, with the latest quarter accounting for 2,929 fares between April and June 2023.

In the six months to June 2023, passenger numbers on the route dropped to 6,320, down from 6,538 in 2022's second half, bringing the total to 12,858 in the RAZC scheme's first year.

However Ms Saffioti said the program's success prompted the WA Government to commit to its continuation until June 2025.

More information is available at farego.wa.gov.au .

NEWS

Local schools celebrate NAIDOC day

The kids engaged in activities including painting, colouring, and making bracelets.

PRATHAMESH DESHPANDE

AROUND 10 Esperance schools and 980 students participated in the inaugural Combined Schools NAIDOC Celebration organised by Nulsen Primary School on August 18 at the Greater Sports Ground.

Years 2/3 teacher Jade Gallon said the National Aborigines' and Islanders' Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) celebration aimed to honour First Nations students and their families while promoting cultural understanding.

Deputy principal and event organiser Megan Johnston said this year's NAIDOC theme, "For our Elders," was front and centre, highlighting the importance of respecting Indigenous wisdom.

Kids listen to and watch videos about local Indigenous stories and cultural practices from the Elders.

She said the collaborative event united primary and high schools from the town and Mallee areas, including Esperance Senior High School and Wongutha CAPS.

Mrs Johnston said community involvement was pivotal, with organisations including Esperance Tjaltjraak Native Title Aboriginal Corporation, Bega Garnbirringu health service, WA Department of Communities, and Centrecare leading interactive stations to educate on culture, land, plants, and Indigenous health.

Mrs Johnston emphasised education, as Elders guided activities about land, culture, and seasonal language.

Dabungool Cultural Experiences shared cultural stories, adding a local touch.

She said generous community donations and grants ensured the event was free for all attendees.

Overcoming logistical hurdles, Mrs Johnston said the event demonstrated unity of purpose.

She expressed hope for continued celebrations with rotating hosting responsibilities among schools while maintaining unity.

Esperance Senior High School girls engaged other school kids in a language game activity of matching Nyungar words with English words. They did so by incorporating it into the song "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes".

Around 10 Esperance schools and 980 students participated in the event.

The school kids engaged in activities including face painting.

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If you have a question about your rights, or some other aspect of the law, a lawyer has volunteered to answer it for you in a new fortnightly column.

Just email your question to editor@esperanceweekender.com.au and we will pass it on for a legal opinion.

Ask a Lawyer starts next week. Watch this space.

Marine Park: District Manager quits

GEOFF VIVIAN

THE senior Esperance public servant overseeing the South Coast Marine Park project has left the building and his job has been advertised.

Interested people are invited to apply for the $110-136,000 job of District Manager — Esperance with the WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions.

In June we asked Environment minister Reece Whitby why the then District Manager had been allowed to take three months' long service leave at a sensitive stage of the South Coast Marine Park project

A Department spokesperson said like all employees, Tas Douglass was entitled to take leave (Weekender, June 9 p1).

Now it appears Mr Douglass is also entitled to quit, as his job was advertised on Wednesday last week.

The Weekender understands he has accepted a position outside of WA.

A DBCA spokesperson said Mr Douglass "remained on leave" but had tendered his resignation which takes effect in early September.

"An acting district manager based in Esperance will continue to lead DBCA's local team throughout the recruitment process," she said.

"Given the current competitive job market and the dynamic nature of this role, DBCA is recruiting across the wider region (South Coast, Goldfields and Great Southern), throughout WA and interstate."

Mr Douglass took leave after a decision not to continue a key staff member's contract, even though the project's Community engagement strategy plan identified the Community Engagement Officer's position as vital to the process.

Senior fishing industry figures and Esperance Shire president Ian Mickel have complained about the poor quality of consultation and lack of information provided ahead of the promised three-month public comment period.

The Department spokesperson said the proposed South Coast Marine Park planning process was ongoing with the "indicative management plan" expected to be released for public comment later this year.

The Esperance Parks and Wildlife office needs a new District Manager.

Nats' PATS petition

STAFF REPORTER

THE Nationals WA are calling on the State Government to drastically improve the Patient Assisted Travel Scheme (PATS) for regional patients, with the launch of a petition in Parliament.

North West Central member Merome Beard said access to health services in regional WA had become increasingly challenging, following service cuts by the WA Government and the ongoing cost-of-living crisis.

"It is apparent through conversations with local residents that the needs and expectations of regional patients is not being met by the current PATS system," Ms Beard said.

"The State Government must ensure all Western Australians have access to quality healthcare, no matter where they live."

The petition calls for six key areas of PATS to be improved upon, including:

- Increased fuel subsidies for private vehicle use.
- Increasing the accommodation subsidy.
- Providing taxi vouchers to allow patients to get to and from medical appointments.
- Improving processing and reimbursement times for patients.
- Expanding PATs to also include dental and allied health services.
- Providing greater recognition and support for patient escorts and carers.

Shadow Regional Health minister Martin Aldridge said a comprehensive review of PATS had been undertaken in 2015, yet the WA Government had failed to address many of the recommendations made.

Photo: Martin Aldridge MLC

Martin Aldridge.

Photo: Merome Beard MLA

Merome Beard.

"Each year, 35,000 regional residents utilise PATS to access essential health services, yet this scheme has seen very little improvement over the past decade," he said.

Mr Aldridge said the existing fuel subsidy for PATS was "woefully inadequate" in 2023.

"The fuel subsidy has been set at just 16 cents since 2009, despite the cost of petrol and diesel regularly soaring above $2 a litre in many regional areas," he said.

"At a time when many are doing it tough with cost-of-living pressures, it's shameful a State Government as prosperous as WA won't put their hands in their pocket to ensure people have the financial support needed to access health services not available locally."

The petition runs until November 2.

Thank you,

Esperance!

Nestled in the heart of Esperance, the Bay of Isles Dental Clinic has long been offering expert dental care and fostering lasting relationships.

But as all good things must pass, Dr Rembrandt Prinsloo and Zelmari Prinsloo said they have started a new chapter of their lives, leaving dentistry and welcoming the serenity of their own farm.

After dedicating their lives to dentistry, the Prinsloos said they decided to take a step back, selling the surgery at the end of February this year after serving the community for more than a decade.

"We've had a lifetime of dentistry," Mrs Prinsloo said.

"Rembrandt finished his dentistry studies in 1991, and we've always been in dentistry. We just need a break from it."

So, what lies ahead for this remarkable couple?

"We've got a little piece of heaven," Mrs. Prinsloo said.

"Rembrandt has always been a farmer at heart. Both of us grew up on farms, and he's just going to play in the mud and plant some crops. We're not leaving Esperance; we will be around."

Reflecting on their journey, Dr Prinsloo expressed his gratitude for the community they've been a part of.

"It was just the best community I've ever worked with," he said.

"I worked in three different countries — South Africa, England, and now Australia — and this one was by far the best."

The story of the Bay of Isles Dental Clinic began when they acquired the surgery in May 2011, after arriving in Esperance the previous year.

The Prinsloos extended their heartfelt appreciation to their dedicated staff, some of whom stood by their side for more than a decade.

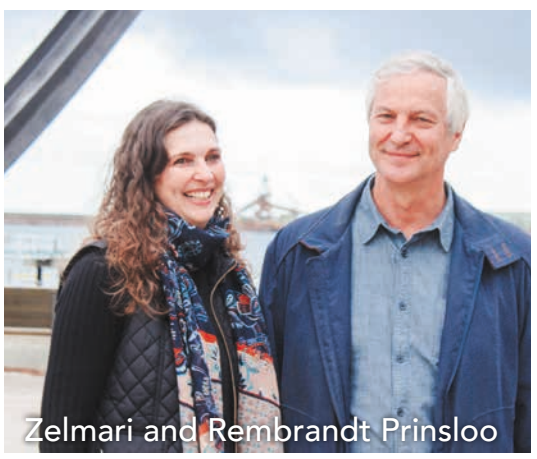
Mrs Prinsloo thanked the community for their love, support, and loyalty.

"They made us a part of the community," she said.

"They supported us. We've made some great friends through these patients. It was an absolute pleasure."

To the new owners of the clinic, the Prinsloos extend their best wishes for a prosperous future.

As they embark on their farming adventure, remember to say hello if you spot them down the street.



Zelmari and Rembrandt Prinsloo

COMMUNITY

Anglers are back

MITCH WAIDEMAN

THE Esperance Land Based Fishing Club were welcomed back from our winter break with great weather and a great turn out of 50 anglers to dust off the cobwebs after a cold wet winter.

With lots of tracks still closed due to the wet weather recently, the general mood was to have a scout around and try new places.

There were some excellent fish weighed in as a result, with Richard Leef pulling in a monster 16.7kg Gummy Shark, one of the better fish weighed in.

Ben Liddelow is out to try and claim top honours this year with another strong venue, breaking his own King George Whiting record again.

Sheryl Waideman weighed in the biggest Salmon so far of the season at 4.54kg and is first in line to win the Assassin rod donated by Oli at Southern Sports and Tackle.

Ben Liddelow with his record King George Whiting.

Photos: Megan Karger

Isla Waideman with the winning salmon and Skippy in under 10s.

Our juniors all got amongst the fish this weekend with Korbyn Dixon taking out four species including the elusive Tailor.

Lots of Salmon weighed in for the event but special mentions to Isla Waideman and Polly Gilchrist on weighing in their first Salmon, well done girls.

Our next venue is the big one!

THE CLASSIC will be on September 16 and 17 with all the details coming up on our socials very soon.

We look forward to making it one of the biggest yet with plenty of prizes for everyone including the spectators!

Kids at the weigh in.

Richard Leef won Heaviest Fish for this 16.7kg Gummy Shark.

Thanks from Southern Ports

Photos: Geoff Vivian

Some of the audience listening to the Southern Ports CEO's speech.

SOUTHERN Ports held a function at Esperance Yacht club last week to thank their various associates.

CEO Keith Wilks said last financial year the Ports of Esperance, Albany and Bunbury had broken a total of 11 volume records for export or import tonnages.

This included Esperance which had exported a record 3.8 million tonnes of grain and 907,000 tonnes of spodumene; and imported a record 225,000 tonnes of fertiliser.

He said Esperance also had 222 vessel visits, the most since 2017.

Mr Wilks said Southern Ports had also improved their "stakeholder and customer" score over the past six to seven years.

"We've come from a low of around 42 to 73 and that's a massive jump," he said.

"That's your feedback to us, and we want to continue to deliver and build those partnerships going forward."

Mr Wilks said Southern Ports had made a total of $298,000 in investments across the three port communities and delivered about $1 million worth of staff training, of which about 45 per cent was safety related.

Southern Ports staff Christiane Bradshaw, Alana Monaghan and Denielle Massang.

Southern Ports director Jane Cutler and client liaison officer David McGrinder.

More solar is on the way

It's about to get easier to start saving with solar

We've been working hard to make solar available to more of the Esperance community and help share the benefits of renewable energy.

Rooftop Solar

With innovations like our new battery energy storage systems, we've been solving technical challenges to safely increase the grid's capacity to handle more rooftop solar. This means hosting capacity in Esperance will soon increase so you'll have the option to power your home or business with rooftop solar. We're releasing 500kW on 19 September 2023. To find out more and to get solar ready visit **horizonpower.com.au/MoreSolar**

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Remembering the fallen

Esperance Vietnam Veterans at last week's Long Tan Day observance.

GEOFF VIVIAN

RSL members, Vietnam War veterans and their families gathered on Friday at the Esperance Cenotaph to mark the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan.

Sub Branch president Glenn Churchland opened the proceedings before secretary Hugh Knight gave an account of the battle, in which 17 Australians lost their lives with one of the 25 wounded dying later.

"The Aussies fought for four hours in muddy conditions during a tropical downpour," he said.

According to the Australian War Memorial, this was the highest number of Australian casualties incurred in any one engagement of the Vietnam War.

An estimated 245 Viet Cong also died.

Mr Knight said he had participated in a special vigil by the graves of his comrades in Albany on August 3 in a special nation-wide observance.

Rev Frank Roe led everyone in prayer before Nora Vine laid a wreath on behalf of the RSL and Laurissa Forbes on behalf of Rick Wilson MHR.

Photos: Geoff Vivian

Rev Roe then delivered the benediction.

An Australian War Memorial spokesperson said the battle of Long Tan was fought on August 18 1966.

One-hundred-and-five men from D Company, 6th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (6RAR) and three New Zealanders from an artillery forward observation party from NZ 161 Field Battery, encountered more than 2,000 Viet Cong soldiers.

Wattles for remembrance

GEOFF VIVIAN

AN unusual feature at Friday's observance of Long Tan Day in Esperance was the use of the wattle, which is now accepted as Australia's floral emblem.

RSL Esperance sub branch secretary Hugh Knight said he had the idea at the special vigil for three Long Tan comrades at Albany Cemetery last month, where he was at the grave of his mate who died in the battle.

"One woman, I'm not sure of her name, put sprigs of wattle on all three graves and I thought 'well that was different'.

"After that, Macca on Sunday mornings was talking about wattles, and he said 'people aren't aware of the national emblem'.

"Then I thought, we have Rosemary for Anzac day and poppies for Remembrance Day.

"Wattles are out at this time of the year in August and we could use them for Vietnam Veterans Day and utilise the national emblem."

At the conclusion of the ceremony last week everyone was offered a sprig of wattle to lay at the Cenotaph alongside the wreaths.

Many Esperance veterans wore the wattle flower at this year's Long Tan Day observance.

Editor's note

AN ex-serviceman at the Long Tan Day observance asked why the Weekender had not mentioned the event beforehand in our pages.

While the ceremony had been in our diary for several weeks it had not occurred to us to publicise what we took to be a semi-private event.

The Weekender is your community newspaper.

If you have a not-for-profit group of any kind, the Weekender is happy to let people know of any of your Esperance and Ravensthorpe events to which the public is invited. — Ed.

Esperance Aged Care Facility

Quality Care Together

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The Esperance Aged Care Facility was a buzz of excitement earlier this month, as we welcomed 10 new Personal Care Workers to the Facility. These workers have been secured through the Pacific Australia Labour Migration (PALM) Scheme, and have come to Esperance from Kiribati. Kiribati is an island country located between the Cook Islands and Hawaii, where the average temperature is 28 degrees. So as you can imagine, it's been quite a shock coming to Esperance in the middle of August!

Our new workforce are settling in nicely, and have quickly become part of the EACF family. These workers have all started their Certificate IV in Aged Care, which they will complete over the coming year.

We look forward to welcoming another tranche of PALM workers to Esperance in the next few months, bringing our total PALM workforce to 20. With each worker contracted for four years, this gives us certainty and security in our staff numbers, meaning we can confidently open up more beds and welcome more residents into the Facility. This is something that we have wanted to do for a long time, however were not in a position to due to the national shortage of aged care workers. We are very pleased that we have been able to secure this PALM workforce, and I would particularly like to thank Board Member Tori Castledine for identifying the opportunity and the many hours she put into the preparation, planning and application for this successful outcome.

Please say 'Mauri!' - hello and welcome, in Kiribati, if you see them around town.

Toni Hawkins, Chairperson

EACF VACANCIES - Above Award Wages

Working in aged care is incredibly rewarding, where you are making a real difference to the lives of our residents. And we pay above award wages.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

The Volunteer coordinator will be responsible for recruiting, supervising, and supporting volunteers and coordinating and managing volunteer activities for Esperance Aged Care Facility. Duties will include recruiting, onboarding and managing volunteers, creating and maintaining volunteer rosters, coordinating volunteer training and maintaining appropriate records.

Closing date: 17 September 2023. Enquiries: 08 9072 3222 or hrm@eacf.org.au

Other vacancies:

- Registered / Enrolled Nurses, and Registered Nurses for Night Shifts
- Homemakers, 7am-3pm to help with meal preparation and serving
- Cleaner
- Personal Care Workers, day and night shifts available
- Door Concierge / Orderly to welcome and assist visitors

For more information on our vacancies visit www.eacf.org.au/careers

Quality Care Together

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dangerously ignorant

CLIMATE censorship is becoming outlandish.

For several years I have been trying to get the West Australian and The Australian newspapers to publish the true climate facts about atmospheric CO2 and climate history in order to educate the reading public. I have informed both papers many times that their journalists, and politicians, keep insisting that Australia produces 1% of global atmospheric CO2 when this is a multiple error of thousands. The whole of mankind only produces between 3% and 5% with the rest produced by nature. Australia only produces between 0.00037% and 0.0005% of global CO2. It has been pointed out constantly to the climate alarmists, Teals, Greens and Labor voters that, by Australia "acting" on climate change by drastically reducing CO2 emissions will have zero effect on climate change, but destroy the whole economy of Australia. Our politicians are dangerously ignorant on climate science and climate history. I ask people repeatedly, "Do you know how much global CO2 has increased since 1850?" Not one person has answered correctly in two years. It is the same with Methane. CO2 up by 0.014% (14/1000%) and Methane up by 0.00007% (7/100,000%).

This censorship of climate knowledge is occurring world wide, not just in Australia. Governments and business organisations universally, believe the drivel published by the UN and the IPCC. Nothing gets published which refutes the role of CO2. Nobody is aware that the hypothesis of CO2 being the cause of global warming is based on the Hockey Stick temperature graph of Michael Mann, which the courts have declared a hoax. This was one of the most important court cases in the last 100 years but no one knows about because of censorship. Mann was ordered to produce the data to verify his temperature graph. He stalled for eight years, did not, could not, produce the data because it does not exist.

Blatant censorship is occurring on our local television network. The Outsiders, one of the most popular shows (Sunday morning and evening) on Fox News is censored every week. I record every episode so that during playback I speed through the advertisements. They have a segment call The Ice Age Weather Watch, which ridicules climate change. I have to play this recording no later than Monday because this segment of the program is removed by Monday evening. Every Monday. What for, or by whom, I have no idea. Someone, or some organisation, wants to keep the viewing public ignorant of climate views opposing the role of CO2.

Newspapers refusing to publish the views of a dumb ignorant uneducated old fisherman (me) is one thing, but cancelling out the views of a Nobel Laureate scientist is outstanding stupidity. Not just any scientist! John Clauser received his award in late 2022 for his work on Quantum Entanglement. Albert Einstein was quoted as saying it (ET) was "spooky action at a distance". The late distinguished scientist Dr Edwin Jaynes said Dr Clauser's work "will surely go down as one of the most incredible intellectual achievements in the history of science".

Clauser was a guest speaker at Quantum Korea recently, where he made a statement refuting the role of CO2 in global warming. He was to give another speech on July 25 to the IMF. This invitation was cancelled when the IMF discovered his contrary views on climate. Unbelievable! One of the most intelligent men on the planet censored.

This is what Clauser says about climate:

"The popular narrative about climate change reflects a dangerous corruption of science that threatens the world's economy and the well being of billions of people. Misguided climate science has metastasised into massive shock journalistic pseudoscience. In turn, the pseudoscience has become a scapegoat for a wide variety of other unrelated ills. It has been promoted and extended by similarly misguided business marketing agencies, and environmentalists. In my opinion, there is no real climate crisis. There's, however, a very real problem with providing a decent standard of living to the world's large population and an associated energy crisis. The latter being unnecessarily exacerbated by what, in my opinion, is incorrect science".

Lee Warner
Bandy Creek

Lee Warner is a retired Abalone fisherman who operates the slipway at Bandy Creek.

Incorrect title

I AM flagging that there is an error in the Esperance Weekender (August 18).

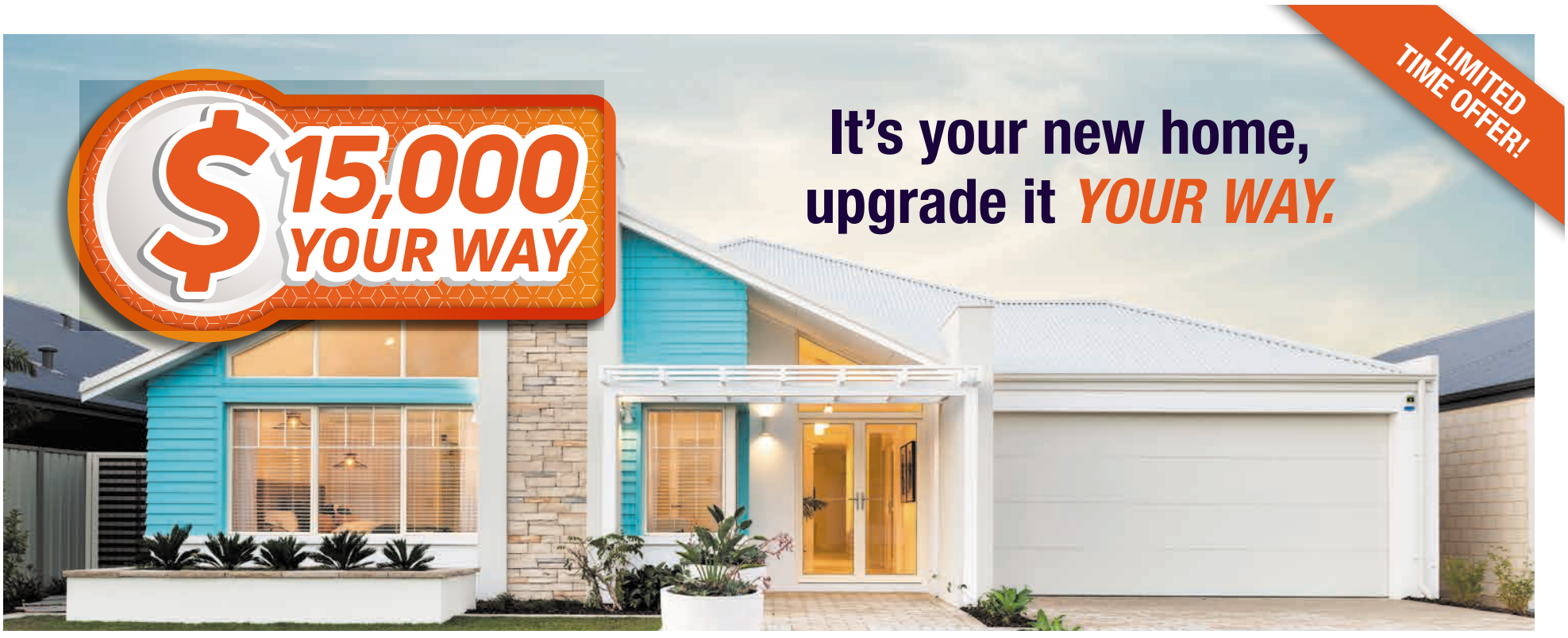
On page 5, while the article refers to Shelley as a member MLC, the image used suggests she is an MLA.

As you would be aware, these two roles are very different and subsequently, it is important that the correct title for Shelley is used in media publications.

Kelly Brady
Research Officer
Office of Hon Shelley Payne MLC
Member for the Agricultural Region

The editor admits to making this error himself! —Ed.

Please email your letters to: editor@esperanceweekender.com.au | Every letter intended for publications must include the writer's full name, address and daytime phone number to enable letters to be verified. Letters may be edited for space, clarity or legal reasons. The deadline submission is noon Tuesday. Letters do not reflect the views of the Esperance Weekender.



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MEMBER OF THE JWHGROUP

BBQs Galore to elevate Father's Day

WHEN it comes to celebrating Dad and creating cherished family moments, nothing rivals the allure of a sizzling barbeque feast.

Carlene Willoughby from Barbeques Galore shared insights on top picks and tips for crafting unforgettable culinary experiences.

This Father's Day, the spotlight shines on Ziggy and Weber portable barbeques, available in three sizes to suit both couples and families, from intimate gatherings to lively parties.

Traeger pellet smokers, renowned for their easy smoked flavours and app-based controls, steal the show, combining oven convenience with smoking artistry.

Barbeques Galore's offerings stand out for their versatility, allowing for crafting everything from hams, bacons, and pork crackling to juicy steaks.

The fusion of flavours and user-friendly design makes these barbeques true game changers in outdoor cooking.

Choosing the right barbeque for Dad need not be difficult; matching size to the occasion ensures each meal is perfect.

Mrs Willoughby offered sage advice to fathers venturing into the world of grilling: "Don't overcook it. Medium rare is perfection. Keep it simple. Keep it delightful. Respect the meat."

Her Father's Day favourites include succulent pork ribs and the timeless charm of high-quality charcoal steak.

Beyond barbeques, Barbeques Galore embodies a legacy of exceptional service, offering reputable brands tailored to the Australian market and outstanding after-sales support.

Reflecting on evolving barbeque experiences, Mrs Willoughby highlights the shift towards quality food alongside gatherings.

Barbeques Galore seamlessly blends tradition and modern culinary excellence.

The store's vast range extends to Esperance Camping Galore, encompassing camping and outdoor living products.

The ongoing Father's Day sale promises substantial savings on barbeques, smokers, accessories, and outdoor furniture, catering to everyone's needs.

Carlene Willoughby shows off the barbecue range.

Photos: Prathamesh Deshpande

Lots of inspirational gifts for Father's Day.

Variety of food and spices on display.

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Les Misérables opens

Photo: Caitlyn Edwards

Curtis Mayfield, Mak Bailye, Lynne Norwood and Anabelle Paxton-Cooper in a scene from Les Misérables.

DEREK CLARKE

THE Esperance Theatre Guild's production of Les Misérables opens tonight for a season of ten performances.

Cast and crew have been working tirelessly over the last 14 weeks in preparation.

Director Caitlyn Edwards said she had been humbled by the overwhelming support she had received for the production.

"Cast and crew have embodied the spirit of the story itself — the notion that individuals who are driven by their fervour can achieve remarkable feats", Edwards said.

"Every note, every step, and every costume stitch is a labour of love, a tangible result of friendship, camaraderie, and the will to create something unforgettable."

Producer Derek Clarke likened tackling the production to a climb of Everest.

"It's been an inspiring, exciting, yet monstrously intimidating challenge and we are about to reach the summit," he said.

"On Sunday we held a special preview performance for pension card holders. The audience graciously presented us with a standing ovation at the final curtain."

The cast performed an item from the show at the 50th Esperance Music Festival and also surprised market goers with a flash mob performance on Sunday August 13.

The entire season of 1400 tickets sold out in the four weeks leading up to Opening Night.

"In an era where stories seem fleeting, it's an honour to reflect upon the enduring relevance of Victor Hugo's work, penned over 150 years ago", Edwards said.

"The universality of Les Misérables themes — hope, love, sacrifice, redemption, and the pursuit of justice — remain as pertinent today as they did back then."

Derek Clarke is Les Misérables producer.

Photo: Esperance Theatre Guild

Full cast photo in promotional shirts

Half century of music

GEOFF VIVIAN

THE 50th annual Esperance Music Festival took place from Thursday to Saturday last week at the Esperance Civic Centre.

Musicians of all ages travelled from as far afield as Albany, Perth and Kalgoorlie for solo, group and big band performances at the three-day Eisteddfod.

These were adjudicated by musician and educator Miguel Wu, who has won numerous awards and qualifications in Australia and the Americas.

He has performed as a soloist himself in Australia, Paraguay, the USA and Europe.

Esperance Music Festival Tracey Schlink thanked the approximately 180 entrants who made the 50th Eisteddfod a really special event.

"We had some people come back from Perth who used to perform here all the time," she said.

Mrs Schlink said many gave repeat performances of favourite pieces heard at past Esperance Festivals.

She invited anyone keen to help at the next Festival to contact the committee via Facebook or email secretary.espmusicfest@gmail.com .

Photo: Geoff Vivian

Presentation of trophy and certificates.

John Paul College Voices from Kalgoorlie.

Esperance Brass Band won Most Oustanding Item for the festival overall.

Lillian Hurrell.

Isobel Shelton and Tiffany Blakely.

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RECIPE OF THE WEEK Chickpea Salad

Get ready for the warmer weather!

INGREDIENTS

1 can Chickpeas rinsed and drained well
2 cups Cucumber finely chopped
2 Roma Tomatoes finely chopped
¼ cup Red Onion finely chopped
3 tbs Fresh Parsley finely chopped
¼ cup Extra Virgin Olive Oil
2 tbs Lemon Juice
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

METHOD

Add chickpeas, cucumber, tomatoes, red onion and parsley to a bowl.

Measure out olive oil into a liquid measuring cup, pour in lemon juice, and season with salt and pepper to taste.

Pour dressing over mixture in bowl. Toss to evenly coat, season with more salt and pepper to taste if needed.

Photo: Cooking Classy

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Magic show

Photos: Geoff Vivian

Ringmistress Erin.

GEOFF VIVIAN

The Great Moscow Circus has come and gone, after a whirlwind five performances over four days at the Greater Esperance Sports Ground.

Audiences were treated to a circus re-imagined for the 21st Century, with no animal acts but an emphasis on the human animal in the form of vaudeville, burlesque and extreme sports of various kinds.

Gagik, the only clown, is a clown with a difference who wears no greasepaint, choosing instead to pay homage to Charlie Chaplin with a bowler hat and toothbrush moustache.

His tumbling and pranks made the perfect segue from act to act as technicians quickly set up each of the next lots of equipment and set.

This was a high-tech circus with numerous special effects from a rock concert use of the big screen to the lights in Eve's hula hoops, tracing animated designs like the Australian flag as they twirl.

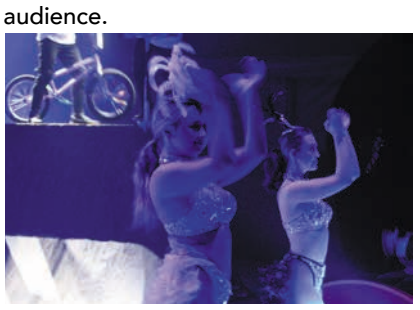
At one and the same time it was all completely over the top and, in true PT Barnum fashion, left the audience "wanting more".

The Moscow Circus pulled up stumps and moved to Kalgoorlie the next day.

Gagik the clown.

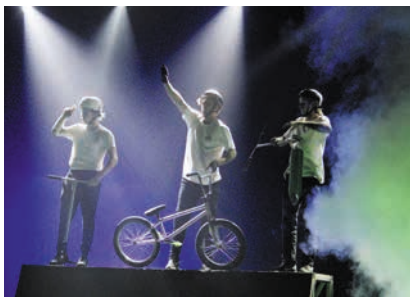
Gagik the clown, freelance marriage celebrant with volunteers from the audience.

Gagik's air guitar band with more audience volunteers



Moscow Circus Dancers.

Hewin Lykousky on the Wheel of Death.



Extreme scooters and BMX.

Acoustic Soul comes to Esperance

GERALDTON artist Alexia Parenzee is joining Darcie Haven and several local artists in an all-female lineup this Saturday for Kyza's Club 75 at the Cannery Arts Centre.

Originally from South Africa, Parenzee grew up in New Zealand and has lived in WA since 2012.

She said she has two genres.

"When I play solo it is in a more acoustic soul kind of vein," she said.

"Think of artists like India Arie, I do touch on a bit of jazz, a bit of blues.

While this is the sound she will be bringing to Esperance as part of her solo tour, Parenzee also has her own band.

"When I play in a band we are a little more jazz-funk driven, a little more fusion," she said.

"The guys I play with all have their own background and styles.

"We do have an album in its final stages, I'm hoping to roll this out in November and start touring with the band."

Saturday's concert starts at 6pm with tickets available via www.kyzapresents.com .

Also appearing are Rachel Vibart, Laura Petrie and Talia Storm.

Club 75 with all the same artists is also on the night before at Ravensthorpe Community Hall.

A Hopetoun bus is available for the Friday night gig.

Photo: Tashi Hall

Alexia Parenzee is appearing at Kyza's Club 75 on Saturday.

QUIZ QUIZ QUIZ QUIZ

1. Which former National leader was sentenced to 3 years' jail earlier this month after being found guilty of corruption?
2. Western leaders are concerned Niger's new military leadership wants to forge closer ties with which country?
3. A new study found that which region of the brain was significantly larger in obese patients?
4. According to the Ending Loneliness Together survey, which is the least-lonely age group in Australia?
5. The Matilda's 2-0 win against Denmark on Monday night was the most-watched broadcast event of the year in Australia, overtaking what?
6. Which coffee-loving nation is the latest to shun US chain Starbucks?
7. Which Aussie fashion label has become the first to hit $1 billion in valuation?
8. A British tourist was outraged after an Italian bar charged him 2 euro for what?
9. Deeds of the 63 Illustrious Men is a key text in what Indian religion?
10. Which singer took his stage name from a Dublin hearing aid shop?

SUDOKU

MEDIUM

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	5		6		9			
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	7				8			3

Photo: AdobeStock

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SCIENCE & NATURE

Innovative spirit ignites at local school

PRATHAMESH DESHPANDE

STUDENTS at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic primary school in Esperance embarked on a journey of exploration and creativity as they celebrated National Science Week last Thursday with "Innovation" as its theme.

The event was organised by teacher Debra Sanger, the school's science specialist.

Collaborating closely with various local organisations, Mrs Sanger said she organised a range of captivating activities.

James Ramsell, Paul Farmilo, and Lachlan Goodfield from the Shire of Esperance showcased drone and submarine technologies, as well as innovative road maintenance techniques employing Jetpatcher trucks.

Paul Waters from Southern Ports highlighted cutting-edge advancements in the maritime domain, while Michael McGrady from Horizon Power unveiled the marvel of a solar-powered car.

In the wake of these inspiring sessions, Mrs Sanger said students were empowered to harness their creativity.

She said after the morning recess, they had dived into hands-on projects.

Mrs Sanger said the older students took up crafting solar-powered cars, while the middle group explored magnetic propulsion for their vehicles.

She said the youngest learners designed and constructed kites and jumping machines which were used for imaginative storytelling, fostering both innovation and learning.

Mrs Sanger, who said she passionately championed science education, stressed the significance of experiences in sparking curiosity.

"Science is all about experience; you don't know what you don't know. Even if one child goes home today with a passion for electric vehicles, they're more inclined to seek out further learning," she said.

Reflecting on her successful endeavour, Mrs Sanger extended advice to fellow educators: "Reach out. Our community has individuals who are willing to contribute. I'm here to support you."

She affirmed the power of curiosity-driven learning in the development of young minds, acknowledging the natural curiosity of primary school children.

Mrs Sanger said the event not only nurtured interest in science but also instilled essential skills for the 21st century.

"Innovation in this context is about thinking critically, problem-solving, teamwork, and communication — all skills we actively cultivate at the school," she said.

Mrs Sanger said as the National Science Week celebration concluded, she hoped the students would go home with a new found appreciation for the science surrounding them daily.

Photos: Prathamesh Deshpande

Kindergarten students look at a drone technology demonstration.

Curious young minds from Years 1 and 6 listen to a drone technology presentation.

Year 5 students are shown the solar-powered electric vehicle.

Students from pre-primary and Years 1 and 6 are shown the Shire's submarine technology.

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ABORIGINAL RANGER PROGRAM

GRANT APPLICATIONS OPEN

11 AUGUST TO 9 OCTOBER 2023

Round 7 of the Aboriginal Ranger Program is underway with up to $13 million available for new and emerging ranger programs.

Eligible Aboriginal organisations can submit applications to fund planning for a new ranger program or operational support for an emerging ranger program.

This new round of funding is part of a $83 million investment which to date, has created more than 650 Aboriginal ranger jobs on country.

Details about eligibility, the application process and assessment criteria are available at dbca.wa.gov.au/aboriginalrangerprogram

2023_425

CBH charity success

Photo: CBH

Anne-Maree Hopkinson from Midwest Charity Begins at Home receives a giant cheque from CBH Geraldton plant operator Hayden Ralph and chair Simon Stead.

STAFF REPORTER

THE CBH Group and Western Australian growers have given local charities a record $520,000 donation from grain voluntarily forfeited in the 2022/23 record harvest.

Funds generated from the sale of forfeited grain through the Harvest Mass Management Scheme (HMMS) has been distributed among nine charities that support grain growers and their communities in Western Australia.

Some of the key charitable causes that received funding this year include lifesaving, emergency support, mental health programs, and cancer services supporting people in the regions.

The HMMS, developed by CBH and Main Roads WA, aims to reduce the occurrence of overloaded grain trucks during harvest. Growers have the option to forfeit grain from overloaded trucks, which is then sold, and the proceeds are donated to WA charities nominated by growers and CBH employees.

The record 2022/23 harvest season - with a delivery of 22.8 million tonnes of grain to CBH - saw 1,264 tonnes voluntarily forfeited. When combined with high grain prices, this year's scheme contributed the single largest annual donation to local charities since HMMS' inception in 2012.

CBH Chair Simon Stead said the donation will provide valuable support to the selected charities, allowing them to continue their important work in helping grain growers and their communities in WA.

"It's wonderful to see that since the scheme's inception, more than $2.6 million has been donated to a range of charitable organisations, who do important work to support regional communities," Mr Stead said.

"The HMMS has proven to be an effective deterrent to the overloading of grain trucks during harvest, addressing safety concerns and promoting responsible practices. Simultaneously, the scheme allows growers to give back to their communities."

The successful charities will be presented with cheques at the CBH Regional Member Forums during August and September.

At the Mingenew Member Forum held on 15 August 2023, two charities - Midwest Charity Begins at Home and St John WA – were presented with their cheques.

CBH Geraldton Plant Operator Hayden Ralph nominated Midwest Charity Begins at Home and was pleased to present the charity with a $22,000 cheque as part of the program.

"I nominated Midwest Charity Begins at Home because they support Midwest families faced with a serious illness," Mr Ralph said.

"I have been involved with the charity through helping with their fund raisers, annual gala ball and donating auction items.

"Knowing that the funds raised go towards helping those with serious illness within the Midwest region is really special."

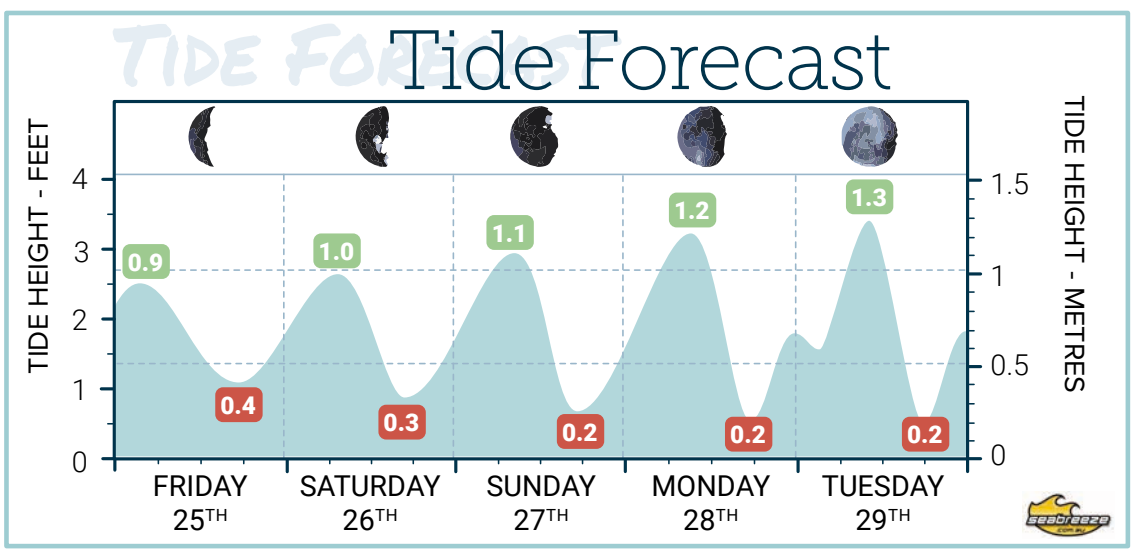
The remainder of recipients will attend the sundowners at the CBH Regional Member Forum events in Dalwallinu, Corrigin, Esperance and Katanning over the coming weeks.

The grain was all forfeit under the Harvest Mass Management Scheme which is a Main Roads protocol to discourage overloading at Harvest time.

Under its terms, CBH staff may not accept a load if the truck carries more than 10 per cent over its allowed limit.

Rather than returning fully loaded to the farm, the driver of an overloaded truck has the option forfeited the excess grain.

The recipients were Alzheimers WA ($40,000), Breast Cancer Care WA ($40,000), Cancer Council of WA ($60,000), CWA ($60,000), Midwest Charity Begins at Home ($22,000), Regional Mens Health Initiative ($70,000), Ronald McDonald House of Charities ($60,000), RFDS ($100,000) and St John WA ($70,000).



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POSITION VACANT

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To apply and for further details, visit the Shire's website https://www.esperance.wa.gov.au/current-vacancies or contact Human Resources on 9071 0660.

Applications close 5.00pm, Friday 1st September 2023

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EMPLOYMENT

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POSITION VACANT

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To apply and for further details, visit the Shire's website https://www.esperance.wa.gov.au/current-vacancies or contact Human Resources on 9071 0660.

Applications close: 5.00pm Friday 8 September 2023

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EMPLOYMENT

Shire of Esperance — Together, we make it happen!

POSITION VACANT

Library Officer - Administration

This position assists in providing an excellent customer experience in delivering high quality accessible Library and Culture services and programs that meet the needs of the community.

To apply and for further details, visit the Shire's website https://www.esperance.wa.gov.au/current-vacancies or contact Human Resources on 9071 0660.

Applications close 5.00pm, Monday 4th September 2023

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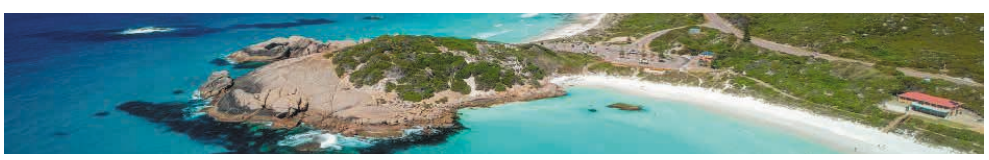

BIRTH

DELLACA

Louis Ambrose

Graeme and Heather welcome with love their 6th grandchild. Congratulations Martine and Damian on the safe arrival of another little miracle.

To all medical personnel who were a part of this journey we say a special thank you.

ESPERANCE NETBALL ASSOCIATION

Div 1	TEAM	P	W	L	D	%	PTS
1	Mallee 1	11	10	1	0	163.08	31
2	United 1	11	9	2	0	156.98	29
3	Gibson 1	11	4	7	0	79.39	19
4	Newtown 1	11	3	8	0	82.93	17
5	Rookies 1	12	2	10	0	62.63	16
Div 2	**TEAM**	**P**	**W**	**L**	**D**	**%**	**PTS**
1	Newtown 2	11	9	2	0	122.96	29
2	Mallee 2	12	5	6	1	101.45	23
3	United 2	11	6	2	2	117.12	21
4	Gibson 2	10	3	5	2	87.53	18
5	Rookies 2	10	1	8	1	76.54	13
Div 3	**TEAM**	**P**	**W**	**L**	**D**	**%**	**PTS**
1	Newtown 3	14	13	1	0	149.6	40
2	United 3	14	11	3	0	137.97	36
3	Rookies 3	14	8	6	0	103.5	30
4	Mallee 3	14	7	7	0	115.18	28
5	Rookies 4	14	2	12	0	53.73	18
6	Gibson 3	14	1	13	0	60.29	16
Div 4	**TEAM**	**P**	**W**	**L**	**D**	**%**	**PTS**
1	Mallee 4	14	9	4	1	143.33	33
2	Newtown 4	14	9	4	1	139.17	33
3	United 4	14	8	5	0	109.52	26
4	Rookies 5	14	1	13	0	39.91	16
Div 5	**TEAM**	**P**	**W**	**L**	**D**	**%**	**PTS**
1	Newtown 5	14	10	2	2	168.14	36
2	Mallee 5	14	7	4	2	112.33	26
3	Gibson 4	14	6	8	0	90.1	26
4	Rookies 6	14	3	11	0	54.53	20

ESPERANCE HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

WOMEN'S - ROUND 13

Bacchus 6 Def Sharks 0

B. Gayfer 2
Z. Gibson 2
C. Gibson
J. McDonald

Best
J. McDonald
C. Gayfer
C. Gibson

Best
N. Creed
A. Drayton
A. Bratten

Condingup 1 Def Legs XI 0

J. Leiper

Best
T. Herbert
J. Leiper
J. Zani

Best
A. Gallagher
Z. Guest
T. Wells

Mallee 4 Def Emus 1

E. Hegney 3
S. Mackenzie

Best
S. Hallam
E.J. Carney
S. Defrenne

Best
I. Sanford
E. Barrett
J. Walter

MEN'S - ROUND 14

Sharks 0 Drew Castletown 0

Best
D. Stephens
L. Handley
J. Daw

Best
C. Green
R. Mumme
D. Sanders

Condingup 1 Drew Cascade 1

C. Tate

Best
D. Mantilla
H. McDonald
J. McDonald

Best
G. Carmody

Best
R. Herbert
M. Rollond
Z. Hatfield

MENS LADDER ROUND 14

Team	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
1. Rams	11	8	1	2	29	25
2. Sharks	12	6	3	3	7	21
3. Castletown	11	3	3	5	0	12
4. Cascade	11	3	3	5	-10	12
5. Condingup	11	1	4	6	-26	7

WOMENS LADDER ROUND 13

Team	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
1. Condingup	11	9	1	1	30	28
2. Furies	11	7	3	1	20	24
3. Mallee	12	6	3	3	14	21
4. Bacchus	11	5	4	2	14	19
5. Emus	11	3	2	6	-2	11
6. Legs XI	11	1	1	9	-36	4
7. Sharks	11	1	0	10	-40	3

United takes the cup

OLIE JONES

THE final game of the 12-14s ECTM League was the decider on who would take the League title for the 2023 season.

United went into the game on top of the League, knowing a draw was good enough to keep them there and win the title on goal difference. City had the pressure of needing to win the match to seize the title.

United coaches Sally Hobson and Steve McIlroy may have seen a strategic advantage when Gareth Palmer's City lined up without their ever-reliable goalkeeper, Bodhi Swann, due to illness. This required Palmer to second his brilliant striker, Sunny Petrie, into goal.

United started to test the City defence with Petrie pulling off some solid saves and Kearata Ramalepa and Dan Palmer backing him up with strong tackles.

Zander Shipp and Felix Pearn started to settle City down with some good passing into attack, which sent Shipp through on goal where he was brought to the ground by the rushing goalkeeper, resulting in a penalty.

Shipp stepped up to take the shot, which was denied by United GK Micheal Nguyen.

The rest of the first half played out with both teams wrestling to control the game and a good run and shot from United's Anaya Ramalepa was the only on-goal action.

After rallying talks from their coaches at half time, both teams emerged with a direct plan.

Petrie was switched out of GK with Shipp for City and Hobson and McIlroy made United's defence hard to break through by placing Harlem Moore and the McIlroy brothers — Euen and Calum — in the line together.

However, there was nothing anyone could do as Petrie pulled the trigger with a strike that flew into the back of the net from well outside the area to give City the lead.

City, inspired by the wonder strike, locked United out with Kurt Mumford and Patrick Bronca equal to anything Tobias Parry and Will Jarzabek had to offer.

Petrie showed his class again by bending a free kick over the wall and into the top corner to make the score 2-0 and leaving City a mere 17 minutes away from gaining the title.

Hobson and McIlroy tried to lift their United team but City, led by Kearata Ramalepa on the pitch, would not back down.

United looked to top scorer Tobias Parry for an answer, and Parry responded by tucking in a neat finish past the keeper.

City recognised the imminent threat of having their hopes dashed in the final minutes and camped on the edge of their own box with every player blocking desperate United shots to sustain their precarious lead. Petrie and Sophie Meerman linked up to relieve the pressure off City and ran the ball into the corners.

Referee Dallin Jorgensen blew the full-time whistle, igniting jubilant celebrations from Palmer and his City players. Congratulations to both teams on a brilliant finale for the season.

Olie Jones is Esperance Soccer Association President.

Photos: Danielle Wohling

The victorious 12-14s City team- League Champions for season 2023.

Anaya Ramalepa shoots for United, fended off by City's Captain, Felix Pearn.

City's Zander Shipp is sent sprawling by United GK Micheal Nguyen.

United's Tobias Parry and City's Kearata Ramalepa compete for possession.

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Esperance District Football Association

EDFA

QUALIFYING FINALS

PORTS OVAL - SATURDAY 19TH AUGUST

COMPETITION NAME	HOME TEAM			AWAY TEAM	
LEAGUE	GIBSON	15.11 (101)	DEF	ESPERANCE	2.7 (19)
A-RESERVES	GIBSON	9.7 (61)	DEF	LIONS	6.8 (44)
WOMEN	GIBSON	5.4 (34)	DEF	ESPERANCE	0.4 (4)
COLTS	GIBSON	8.6 (54)	DEF	ESPERANCE	7.9 (51)
UNDER 16's	PORTS	12.5 (77)	DEF	GIBSON	5.3 (33)
UNDER 14's	GIBSON	11.7 (73)	DEF	LIONS	2.1 (13)

ELIMINATION FINALS

NEWTOWN OVAL - SUNDAY 20TH AUGUST

COMPETITION NAME	HOME TEAM			AWAY TEAM	
LEAGUE	PORTS	12.7 (79)	DEF	LIONS	8.7 (55)
A-RESERVES	PORTS	9.5 (59)	DEF	ESPERANCE	6.4 (40)
WOMEN	PORTS	5.7 (37)	DEF	LIONS	3.6 (24)
COLTS	PORTS	12.13 (85)	DEF	LIONS	5.8 (38)
UNDER 16's	LIONS	13.7 (85)	DEF	ESPERANCE	6.1 (37)
UNDER 14's	ESPERANCE	3.5 (23)	DEF	LIONS	2.1 (13)

FINALS WEEK 2 PRELIMINARY FINALS

ESPERANCE OVAL - SATURDAY 26TH AUGUST

COMPETITION NAME	HOME TEAM		AWAY TEAM	
UNDER 14's	LIONS	VS	ESPERANCE	8:00 AM
UNDER 16's	GIBSON	VS	LIONS	9:20 AM
COLTS	ESPERANCE	VS	PORTS	10:50 AM
WOMENS	ESPERANCE	VS	PORTS	12:20 PM
A-RESERVES	LIONS	VS	PORTS	1:40 PM
LEAGUE	ESPERANCE	VS	PORTS	3:15 PM

All results provided by EDFA, see Play HQ for more information.

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY

SPORT

It's tiger time

Esperance's Rhys Wood is tackled by Aogan McCallion from Gibson

League

STAFF REPORTER

GIBSON rocketed into next Saturday's EDFA League Grand Final after demolishing Esperance by 82 points 15.11 (101) to 2.7 (19).

Matt Harding kicked the first goal of the second quarter and that was to be the last for the Bulldogs as the Tigers piled on 13 unanswered goals including eight in the final quarter.

It was fiery contest to half time as both sides were involved in several skirmishes that threatened to boil over, however the players were controlled well by the umpires, though Lachlan Stewart and Liam Baines were both given yellow cards late in the second quarter for what was a minor scuffle in comparison to the earlier confrontations.

Gibson dominated possession of the football after half time and were first to most contests, whereas Esperance spent most of its energy chasing and being continually second to the ball trailing by 33 points at three quarter time.

Aogan McCallion was brilliant leading the Gibson midfield in the last quarter and Lachlan Stewart bobbed up with three goals in the final term as the Tigers ran riot.

It was a polished team performance from the Tigers, conversely it was hard to find an Esperance player who won their position on the day.

A-Reserves

STAFF REPORTER

THE undefeated Gibson is into another EDFA A-Reserves Grand Final after seeing off the challenge from Newtown-Condingup by three goals in the Qualifying Final 9.8(62) to 6.8(44).

Both teams could not be separated at quarter time as the sides matched each other for run and intensity at the contest.

A five goal second quarter by the Tigers ultimately set up the victory as the experienced Ash Bowman kicked two goals to see Gibson lead by 21 points at half time.

This seasons Ted Young medalist Brett Trocinski pulled the margin back to 11 points at the three quarter time break to give his side a sniff of a minor upset.

Ryan Quinlivan marks over the top of Jarrod Heald.

Any thoughts of a Lions win were snuffed out by goals to Nathan McLean and Logan Brown as the Tigers kept the Lions at bay with an 18 point win.

Best players for the Tigers were Brown, Bowman and Kaelin Hughes played well off the half back line as Scott McArthur, Craig Henderson and Trocinski were the better players for the Lions.

Women's

STAFF REPORTER

THE Gibson Women's side took the direct route in this season's EDFA Grand Final with a five-goal win against Esperance in the Qualifying Final 5.4 (34) to 0.4(4).

The Tigers controlled the midfield through Mikayla Barty and Rani Smart as the Bulldogs found it hard to get the ball forward of centre in the first half, Annika Stone and Tameka Brooks all scoring goals as Gibson took a three goal lead into half time.

Gibson then withstood a spirited Esperance challenge in the third quarter where the Bulldogs could only muster two points for their sustained period of dominance with the advantage of a slight breeze favouring the Brazier Street end.

Goals to Clara Graham and Kaci Roberson sealed the match for the Tigers and a date with the Grand Final to be played on their home turf on September 2.

Better players for the Tigers were Smart, Barty and Hannah Palmer as Ava Neill, Taya Neill and Taya Strickland tried hard to lift the Bulldogs, most notably in the third quarter.

Photos: Greg Symes

Clara Graham sends the ball downfield for Gibson.

SPORT

A Blues revival

Josh Veness takes a strong chest mark.

STAFF REPORTER

Ports sent the reigning premiers Newtown-Condingup out of the 2023 EDFA League premiership race after a four goal win in their Elimination Final clash at Newtown Oval on Sunday.

The Blues took a two point lead into half time 6.3 (39) to 6.1 (37) after three goals to forward Michael Perry who grabbed the advantage of Ports' high possession gameplan which denied Newtown-Condingup's prime movers' access to the football.

Ports came out firing after half time with goals to Bailey Glass (2), Perry with his fourth of the match, Cameron Brown and veteran Josh Veness which saw the Blues out to a 32 point lead at the final break.

Newtown-Condingup threatened early in the last quarter with goals to Nic Munro and Braydon Tonkin, but they were countered by Veness' second as the Blues ran out 24 point winners 12.7 (79) to 8.7 (55).

The Blues defensive pairing of Zac Major and Tyson Gibson were outstanding early in the match as they weathered everything that the Lions threw at them with their intercept marking in the first half.

Wingman Jordan Farrell excelled in his role as the outlet player for the Blues, the beneficiary of Major and Gibson's good work down back.

Glass and Brown (three goals) lifted their work rate after half time to feature as the Blues better players, with the goalsneak Perry.

Oakley Wallace, Mitchell Lynn and Munro were the best players for the Lions in a match where they were soundly beaten across the ground.

A-Reserves

STAFF REPORTER

IN similar scenes to the League clash a five goal burst from Ports in the third quarter was enough to defeat Esperance in the A-Reserves Elimination Final clash on Sunday.

Goals to Tim Warren (2), Lewis Fisher, Matthew Spencer and Darryl Stewart in a ten minute period gave the Blues a match winning 25 point lead at three quarter time.

Ryan Anthony (3 goals), Kheyan Dabb (2 goals) and Jarrell Tucker all scored a goal for Bulldogs as they reduced the margin to six points halfway through the last quarter.

Cale Walker (4 goals) then steadied for Ports kicking two goals in quick succession to send the Blues out winners by 19 points, 9.5 (59) to 6.4 (40).

Joshua Holberton worked hard in the ruck for Ports against a bigger opponent and Nigel Johnston as the defensive marshal rounded out the Blues best players, joined by Walker.

Youngster Saul Golebiowski showed that he has benefited from a handful of League appearances this season to be one of the Bulldogs better players combined with Justin Stefanovich and veteran defender Peter Duffy.

Ports' Nigel Johnston launches the ball out of defence.

Women's

STAFF REPORTER

PORTS Bluebirds won through to tomorrows Preliminary Final against Esperance after seeing off Newtown-Condingup by 13 points 5.7 (37) to 3.6 (24) in their Elimination Final played at Newtown Oval on Sunday in what was perfect winter conditions for football.

Natalie House kicked the first and last goal of the match and those two goals were effectively the difference between the sides.

Ports led by 23 points at half time after goals to Leharni Nundi-Bennett (2) and Bianca Bambra.

The Lions cut down the margin to nine points at three quarter time after a sustained period of control of the football yielded goals to Jemma Trocinski and Emma Turner.

House kicked the only goal of the final quarter to be the best player on the ground for the Bluebirds as Bennett and Rachel Minnett rounded out better players.

Kesaia Ridgeway was excellent in defence for the Lions as Trocinski and Turner found plenty of possessions after half time.

Nardiah Lay (Ports) and Samantha Higgins (Lions) contest the ruck knock.

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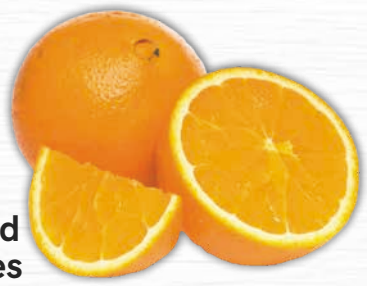

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Sharks' Grand Final victory

Photos: Geoff Vivian

Sharks' Mitch Jones escaping a tackle from Tiger Chad Tuckett.

GEOFF VIVIAN

THE sun was shining on and off for the Ravensthorpe and Districts Football Association grand final at Ravensthorpe Oval on Saturday.

Hopetoun booted the first point and then the first goal in the quarter, answered fairly quickly by a goal from the home team.

But the Sharks continued to dominate the rest of the quarter. Ravensthorpe managed a couple of stray points more but it was definitely Hopetoun's game from the start.

At Quarter time the home side had scored 1.2(08) to Hopetoun's 5.4(34).

The Sharks maintained an ever-widening lead for the remaining three quarters, and although both sides missed plenty of opportunities in the light breeze, the visitors created many more.

Half time score was 4.4(28) to 11.8(74).

By the final siren it was 6.5(41) to 18.17(125).

While this was the weirdest Grand Final I had ever seen, Hopetoun playing coach Galen Parker was magnanimous in victory.

"They've got some really good players," he said of his hosts.

"We just had to make sure that when they came, we matched it with them – they are still a very competitive side."

Ravensthorpe coach Joe Francis said they were missing four or five key players as they recovered from injuries.

He said they "certainly had to think outside the square" to maintain the only two-team competition in the country.

"We've been struggling for the last 15 years as an Association and that's why we play 14 aside," he said.

"There's a whole big bunch of kids kicking around and the community, Ravensthorpe and Hopetoun, decides to get everyone together on Monday.

"It's a lot of fun."

Parker concurred.

"I'm just very stoked that this league is still going in the spirit that we have," he said.

"It's been a challenge to maintain a two team competition, but we're doing it successfully, we've got the Playbook that works."

Saturday was a day of Grand Finals for the two clubs.

In the Hockey Grand Final, Tigers won 2-nil. In the Netball Tigers won A Grade and Sharks won B Grade.

Hopetoun's Jesse Gibson descends as Ravensthorpe's Steve Bertolli tries for the mark.

Hopetoun's number 10 Jesse Gibson ready for action as Sharks' ruck Courtney Foulds and Tigers ruck Rhyss Laycock contest the ball.

Sharks' Jesse Gibson tackles Tigers' Ethan Clarke.

Ravenshorpe's Nathan Mudiey about to evade Hopetoun number 15 Drew Money.

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